

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A client terminal for generating content, said client terminal operatively coupled to a server over a bi-directional communication network, said client terminal comprising:

an input device adapted for inputting melody information, said melody information including musical content data of a melody;

a transmitter operatively coupled with said input device and adapted to transmit the inputted melody information to the coupled server; and

a receiver adapted to receive content information from the server, said content information having been created by the server ~~by imparting~~ on the basis of the melody information, transmitted by the transmitter, ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the melody information~~

wherein said content information includes at least one of:

harmony information matching with the input melody information transmitted via said transmitter,

backing information matching with the input melody information,

left-hand performance information matching with the input melody information, with the input melody information assumed to be performance information generated through a performance on a keyboard-based musical instrument with a right hand,

both-hand performance information matching with the input melody information,

performance expression information for the input melody information,

musical composition information of a single music piece with the input melody information used as a motif thereof,

other melody information made by modifying the input melody information,
information made by converting waveform data of the input melody information into tone-
generator driving information of a predetermined format, and
musical score picture information corresponding to at least one of the information listed
above.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A client terminal as claimed in claim 1 wherein the content information received via said receiver is sample content information that is intended for test listening or test viewing,

said transmitter is further adapted to transmit, to the server, a request for delivery of regular content information, and

said receiver is adapted to receive the regular content information delivered from the server in response to the request for delivery.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A client terminal as claimed in claim 1 wherein said input device is further adapted to input parameter information to said client terminal,

said transmitter is further adapted to transmit the parameter information, inputted via said input device, to the server, and

said receiver is further adapted to receive, from the server, the content information corresponding to the parameter information transmitted via said transmitter to the server.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A client terminal as claimed in claim 3 wherein the parameter information is inputted via said input device by being selected from among a plurality of items of previously-provided parameter information.

Claims 5-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): A server for generating content, said server operatively coupled to a client terminal over a bi-direction communication network, said server comprising:

a receiver adapted to receive melody information from the client terminal, said melody information including musical content data of a melody;

a processor device coupled with said receiver and adapted to create content information on the basis of by imparting the received melody information, said content information including at least one of: with music information to be reproduced along with the melody information; and

harmony information matching with the melody information received via said receiver;

backing information matching with the received melody information,

left-hand performance information matching with the received melody information, with the received melody information assumed to be performance information generated through a performance on a keyboard-based musical instrument by a right hand,

both-hand performance information matching with the received melody information;

performance expression information for the received melody information,

musical composition information of a single music piece with the received melody information used as a motif thereof,

other melody information made by modifying the received melody information,

information made by converting waveform data of the received melody information into tone-generator driving information of a predetermined format, and

musical score picture information corresponding to at least one of the information listed above; and

a delivery device operatively coupled with said processor device and adapted to deliver, to the client terminal, the content information created by said processor device.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A server as claimed in claim 7 wherein said processor device is adapted to create said content information as one of regular content information and sample content information that is intended for test listening or test viewing, and

said delivery device delivers, to the client terminal, the sample content information created by said processor device, and, in response to a request for delivery of the regular content information by the client terminal, delivers, to the client terminal, the regular content information created by said processor device.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A server as claimed in claim 8 which further comprises a device for performing a billing process on the basis of the request for delivery of the regular content information by the client terminal.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A server as claimed in claim 7 wherein said receiver is further adapted to receive parameter information from the client terminal, and

said processor device is adapted to create the content information including music information corresponding to the parameter information received via said receiver.

Claims 11-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A client terminal for generating content, said client terminal operatively coupled to server over a bi-directional communication network, said client terminal comprising:

an input device adapted to input chord progression data to said client terminal ~~for inputting musical material information to said client terminal, the musical material information including content data of a music piece other than the melody content of the music piece;~~

a transmitter coupled with said input device and adapted to transmit chord progression data ~~the musical material information,~~ inputted via said input device, to the server; and

a receiver adapted to receive content information from the server, said content information including at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~having been created by the server on the basis of the chord progression data by imparting the transmitted musical material information,~~ transmitted by said transmitter, ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the musical material information.~~

Claim 14 (previously presented): A client terminal as claimed in claim 13 wherein the content information received via said receiver is sample content information that is intended for test listening or test viewing,

said transmitter is further adapted to transmit, to the server, a request for delivery of regular content information, and

said receiver is further adapted to receive the regular content information delivered from the server in response to the request for delivery.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A client terminal as claimed in claim 13 wherein said input device is further adapted to input parameter information to said client terminal,

said transmitter is further adapted to transmit the parameter information, inputted via said input device, to the server, and

said receiver is ~~further~~ adapted to receive, from the server, the content information ~~including music information~~ corresponding to the parameter information transmitted via said transmitter to the server.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A server for generating content, said server operatively coupled to a client terminal over a bi-directional communication network, said server comprising:

a receiver adapted to receive chord progression data ~~musical material information~~ from a client terminal, ~~the musical material information including content data of a music piece other than the melody content information of the music piece;~~

a processor device coupled with said receiver and adapted to create at least one of melody information and accompaniment data on the basis of the received chord progression data and create content information including the created at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~by imparting the received musical material information with music information to be reproduced along with the musical material information;~~ and

a delivery device operatively coupled with said processor device and adapted to deliver, to the client terminal, the content information created by said processor device.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A server as claimed in claim 16 wherein said processor device is adapted to create said content information as regular content information and sample content information that is intended for test listening or test viewing, and

said delivery device delivers, to the client terminal, the sample content information created by said processor device, and, in response to a request for delivery of the regular content information by the client terminal, delivers, to the client terminal, the regular content information created by said processor device.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A server as claimed in claim 16 wherein said receiver is further adapted to receive parameter information from the client terminal, and

said processor device is adapted to create the content information ~~including music information~~ corresponding to the parameter information received via said receiver.

Claim 19 (currently amended): In a system having a server and a client terminal, said server and said client terminal being operatively coupled over a bi-directional communication network, a method for generating content information, said method comprising:

a step of inputting melody information, said melody information including musical content data of a melody;

a step of transmitting the inputted melody information to the server; and

a step of receiving content information from the server, said content information having been created by the server on the basis of ~~by imparting~~ the melody information, transmitted by said step of transmitting, ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the melody information.~~

wherein said content information includes at least one of:

harmony information matching with the input melody information transmitted via said transmitter,

backing information matching with the input melody information,

left-hand performance information matching with the input melody information, with the input melody information assumed to be performance information generated through a performance on a keyboard-based musical instrument with a right hand,

both-hand performance information matching with the input melody information,

performance expression information for the input melody information,

musical composition information of a single music piece with the input melody information used as a motif thereof,

other melody information made by modifying the input melody information, and

information made by converting waveform data of the input melody information into tone-generator driving information of a predetermined format; and

musical score picture information corresponding to at least one of the information listed above.

Claim 20 (currently amended): In a system having a server and a client terminal, said server and said client terminal being operatively coupled over a bi-directional communication network, a method for generating content information using the server, said method comprising:

a step of receiving melody information from the client terminal, said melody information including musical content data of a melody;

a step of creating content information on the basis of ~~by imparting~~ the received melody information, said content information including at least one of ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the melody information; and~~

harmony information matching with the input melody information transmitted via said transmitter,

backing information matching with the input melody information,

left-hand performance information matching with the input melody information, with the input melody information assumed to be performance information generated through a performance on a keyboard-based musical instrument with a right hand,

both-hand performance information matching with the input melody information,

performance expression information for the input melody information,

musical composition information of a single music piece with the input melody information used as a motif thereof,

other melody information made by modifying the input melody information,

information made by converting waveform data of the input melody information into tone-generator driving information of a predetermined format, and

musical score picture information corresponding to at least one of the information listed above; and

a step of delivering, to the client terminal, the content information created by said step of creating.

Claim 21 (currently amended): In a system having a server and a client terminal, said server and said client terminal being operatively coupled over a bi-directional communication network, a method for generating content information, said method comprising:

a step of inputting chord progression data ~~musical material information, the musical material information including content data of a music piece other than the melody content of the music piece;~~

a step of transmitting the chord progression data, ~~musical material information~~, inputted via said step of inputting, to the server; and

a step of receiving from the server content information created by the server, said content information including at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~having been created by the server on the basis of the chord progression data by imparting the musical material information, transmitted by said step of transmitting, with music information to be reproduced along with the musical material information.~~

Claim 22 (currently amended): In a system having a server and a client terminal, said server and said client terminal operatively coupled over a bi-directional communication network, a method for generating content information using the server, said method comprising:

a step of receiving chord progression data ~~musical material information~~ from the client terminal, ~~the musical material information including content data of a music piece other than the melody content information of the music piece;~~

a step of creating at least one of melody information and accompaniment data on the basis of the received chord progression data and creating content information including the created one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~content information by imparting the received musical material information with music information to be reproduced along with the musical material information;~~ and

a step of delivering, to the client terminal, the content information created by said step of creating.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A program containing a group of instructions to cause a computer of a client terminal to perform a method for generating content, said client terminal operatively coupled to a server over a bi-directional communication network, said method comprising:

a step of inputting melody information, said melody information including musical content data of a melody;

a step of transmitting to the server the inputted melody information; and

a step of receiving from the server content information created by the server, said content information having been created by the server on the basis of ~~by imparting~~ the melody information,

transmitted by said step of transmitting, ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the melody information.~~

wherein said content information includes at least one of:

harmony information matching with the input melody information transmitted via said transmitter,

backing information matching with the input melody information,

left-hand performance information matching with the input melody information, with the input melody information assumed to be performance information generated through a performance on a keyboard-based musical instrument with a right hand,

both-hand performance information matching with the input melody information,

performance expression information for the input melody information,

musical composition information of a single music piece with the input melody information used as a motif thereof,

other melody information made by modifying the input melody information, and

information made by converting waveform data of the input melody information into tone-generator driving information of a predetermined format; and

musical score picture information corresponding to at least one of the information listed above.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A program containing a group of instructions to cause a computer of a server to perform a method for generating content, said server operatively coupled to a client terminal over a bi-directional communication network, said method comprising:

a step of receiving melody information from the client terminal, said melody information including musical content data of a melody;

a step of creating content information on the basis of ~~by imparting to~~ the received melody information ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the melody information;~~ and

said content information including at least one of:

harmony information matching with the input melody information transmitted via said transmitter,

backing information matching with the input melody information,

left-hand performance information matching with the input melody information, with the input melody information assumed to be performance information generated through a performance on a keyboard-based musical instrument with a right hand,

both-hand performance information matching with the input melody information,

performance expression information for the input melody information,

musical composition information of a single music piece with the input melody information used as a motif thereof,

other melody information made by modifying the input melody information,

information made by converting waveform data of the input melody information into tone-generator driving information of a predetermined format, and

musical score picture information corresponding to at least one of the information listed above; and

a step of delivering, to the client terminal, the content information created by said step of creating.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A program containing a group of instructions to cause a computer of a client terminal to perform a method for generating content, said client terminal operatively coupled to a server over a bi-directional communication network, said method comprising:

a step of inputting chord progression data ~~musical material information, the musical material information including content data of a music piece other than the melody content of the music piece;~~

a step of transmitting to the server the input chord progression data ~~musical material information;~~ and

a step of receiving from the server content information, said content information including at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~having been~~ created by the server on the basis of the chord progression data ~~by imparting the musical material information,~~ transmitted by said step of transmitting, ~~with music information to be reproduced along with the musical material information.~~

Claim 26 (currently amended): A program containing a group of instructions to cause a computer of a server to perform a method for generating content, said server operatively coupled to a client terminal over a bi-directional communication network, said method comprising:

a step of receiving chord progression data ~~musical material information~~ from the client terminal, ~~the musical material information including content data of a music piece other than the melody content of the music piece;~~

a step of creating at least one of melody information and accompaniment data on the basis of the received chord progression data and creating content information including the created at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~by imparting the received musical material information with music information to be reproduced along with the musical material information;~~
and

a step of delivering, to the client terminal, the content information created by said step of creating.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A client terminal for generating content, said client terminal operatively coupled to a server over a bi-directional communication network, said client terminal comprising:

a first receiver adapted to receive, from the server, parameter input screen information for inputting a plurality of kinds of composing parameters;

a display device adapted to display the parameter input screen;

an input device adapted to sequentially input individual ones of the plurality of kinds of composing parameters to the parameter input screen displayed on said display device ~~information for composing a music piece to said client terminal;~~

a transmitter coupled with said input device and adapted to transmit the plurality of kinds of parameters ~~parameter information~~, inputted via said input device, to the server; and

a second receiver adapted to receive, from the server, musical content information having been automatically created ~~representing the music piece composed~~ on the basis of the ~~parameter information~~ plurality of kinds of parameters transmitted via said transmitter to the server.

Claims 28-29 (canceled)

Claim 30 (currently amended): A server for generating content, said server apparatus operatively coupled to a client terminal over a bi-directional communication network, said server apparatus comprising:

a transmitter adapted to transmit, to the client terminal, parameter input screen information for inputting a plurality of kinds of composing parameters;

a receiver adapted to receive, from the client terminal, the plurality of kinds of composing parameters sequentially inputted to the client terminal using the parameter input screen information;

~~a receiver adapted to receive parameter information for composing a music piece from a client terminal;~~

a processor device coupled with said receiver and adapted to automatically create musical content information representing the music piece composed on the basis of the plurality of kinds of composing parameters ~~parameter information~~ received via said receiver; and

a delivery device coupled with said processor device and adapted to deliver, to the client terminal, the musical content information created by said processor device.

Claims 31-32 (canceled).

Claim 33 (currently amended): In a system having a server and a client terminal, said server and said client terminal being operatively coupled over a bi-directional communication network, a method for generating content using the client terminal, said method comprising:

a step of receiving, from the server, parameter input screen information for inputting a plurality of kinds of composing parameters;

a step of displaying the parameter input screen on a display device;

a step of sequentially inputting individual ones of the plurality of kinds of composing parameters to the parameter input screen displayed on said display device ~~parameter information for composing a music piece;~~

a step of transmitting the ~~parameter information~~ plurality of kinds of parameters, inputted via said step of inputting, to the server; and

a step of receiving, from the server, musical content information having been automatically created ~~representing the music piece composed~~ on the basis of the plurality of kinds of parameters ~~parameter information~~ transmitted via said step of transmitting to the server.

Claim 34 (currently amended): In a system having a server and a client terminal, said server and said client terminal operatively coupled over a bi-directional communication network, a method for generating content using said server, said method comprising:

a step of transmitting, to the client terminal, parameter input screen information for inputting a plurality of kinds of composing parameters;

a step of receiving, from the client terminal, the plurality of kinds of composing parameters sequentially inputted to the client terminal using the parameter input screen information ~~parameter information for composing a music piece from the client terminal;~~

a step of automatically creating musical content information representing the music piece composed on the basis of the plurality of kinds of composing parameters ~~parameter information~~ received via said step of receiving; and

a step of delivering, to the client terminal, the musical content information created by said step of creating.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A program containing a group of instructions to cause a computer of a client terminal to perform a method for generating content, said client terminal operatively coupled to a server over a bi-directional communication network, said method comprising:

a step of receiving, from the server, parameter input screen information for inputting a plurality of kinds of composing parameters;

a step of displaying the parameter input screen on a display device;

a step of sequentially inputting individual ones of the plurality of kinds of composing parameters to the parameter input screen displayed on said display device ~~parameter information for composing a music piece;~~

a step of transmitting the ~~parameter information~~ plurality of kinds of parameters, inputted via said step of inputting, to a server; and

a step of receiving, from the server, musical content information having been automatically created ~~representing the music piece composed~~ on the basis of the plurality of kinds of parameters ~~parameter information~~ transmitted via said step of transmitting to the server.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A program containing a group of instructions to cause a computer of a server to perform a method for generating content, said server operatively coupled to a client terminal over a bi-directional communication network, said method comprising:

a step of transmitting, to the client terminal, parameter input screen information for inputting a plurality of kinds of composing parameters;

a step of receiving, from the client terminal, the plurality of kinds of composing parameters sequentially inputted to the client terminal using the parameter input screen information ~~parameter information for composing a music piece from a client terminal;~~

a step of automatically creating musical content information representing the music piece composed on the basis of the plurality of kinds of composing parameters ~~parameter information~~ received via said step of receiving; and

a step of delivering, to the client terminal, the musical content information created by said step of creating.

Claim 37 (previously presented): A client terminal as claimed in claim 1 wherein the melody information inputted by said input device is either a series of note data or waveform data.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A client terminal as claimed in claim 1 wherein said input device is one of an input device for inputting note data in response to designation of a musical score displayed on a display, an input device for loading and inputting music piece data stored in a storage device, and an input device for inputting waveform data.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A ~~client terminal~~ server as claimed in claim 7 where the melody information received by said receiver is either a series of note data or waveform data.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A client terminal as claimed in claim 1 wherein the content information received by said receiver further includes musical score data pertaining to the melody information ~~imparted with the music information~~.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A server as claimed in claim 7 wherein the content information created by said processor device further includes musical score data pertaining to the melody information ~~imparted with the music information~~.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A client terminal as claimed in claim 13 wherein the content information received by said receiver further includes musical score data pertaining to the at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~musical material information imparted with the music information~~.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A server as claimed in claim 16 wherein the content information created by said processor device further includes musical score data pertaining to the at least one of melody information and accompaniment data ~~musical material information imparted with the music information~~.

Claims 44-49 (canceled)